



Bulletin

MARCH 2023 | ADAR/NISSAN 5783

VOLUME 77 NUMBER 6

FROM RABBI HAYON



Jewish joy remains among our greatest resources in facing down our adversaries. Our indomitable capacity for happiness and celebration is one of the superpowers that ensures that our people will endure and thrive.

Over the past few weeks, I and the other leaders of our congregation have led or participated in dozens of conversations about security. We've discussed nearly every aspect of this enormous and vitally important topic: doors, locks, and keys; visitor management; traffic control; online security; staff training, and much, much more. I'm proud of the significant progress and the concrete changes that our staff and lay leadership have made in a relatively short period of time.

One of the key realizations I've come to over the past couple of weeks is that when we talk about this subject, there is a critical distinction between two words that many people use interchangeably, but which are actually quite different from one another: security and safety. When we talk about security, we generally refer to the nuts-and-bolts details of the physical and tactical infrastructures which protect our campus and the people in it. Safety, on the other hand, is a more abstract term which describes one's feelings of ease, comfort, and contentedness when they spend time at Emanu El. Now that we've dedicated so many dollars and hours to the security of our building and premises, what resources can we use to increase the sense of safety felt by the many people who make their spiritual home here?

Fortunately, there are many tools in our spiritual tool-

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8th Annual Second Night Seder – Registration Open! Thursday, April 6, 6:00 p.m.

We invite you to join us for our 8th Annual Second Night Seder. Led by our clergy, our seder features a fully catered meal that includes all the staples from matzoh ball soup to gefilte fish! The meal is catered by Houston Catering Concepts, the preferred caterer of Congregation Emanu El.

The deadline to register is **Wednesday, March 29**. The cost to attend is \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members, and \$20 for children under 12.

Those members of our congregation seeking financial assistance and/or are interested in making a donation to make seder accessible for members of our community are encouraged to reach out to Anna Shabtay, Director of Congregational Advancement, at annas@emanuelhouston.org or 713.987.3316.

Second Night Seder is generously underwritten by the Susman Fund for Family Programming and the Rabbi Roy & Linda Walter Enrichment Fund.

see registration form on page 9

Committed to Communication

We appreciate the many discussions we've had with passionate families and community members over the past several weeks. During these discussions, one of the most frequent asks from all of you was for us to be a more reliable source of information about the recent events here in our community.

To better meet that need, we've created a newsroom page, accessible at emanuelhouston.org/newsroom or via links on our main website. While existing direct messaging systems will still be used for communicating critical, time-sensitive information, the newsroom will serve as a source of regular, non-critical updates on subjects like security protocols and improvements, upcoming safety trainings, the criminal case, our interim

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SHABBAT WORSHIP

Friday night services are streamed on our website, Facebook page, Roku channel, and YouTube. Saturday morning B'nei Mitzvah services are available solely on the website and Saturday services take place in Proler Chapel as an in-person experience only. Any changes will be shared via the regular synagogue communications.

Shabbat T'tzaveh Friday, March 3

5:45 p.m., Rodeo Tot Shabbat Dinner, Feld Hall
6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel
6:15 p.m., Rodeo Tot Shabbat Service,
Oshman Multi-Purpose Room

Saturday, March 4

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
Shabbat Schmooze & Schmear
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'not Mitzvah of **Mia Pliskin** and **Riana Pliskin**,
daughters of Greta & Alex Pliskin

Shabbat Ki Tisa Friday, March 10

6:00 p.m., Heritage Shabbat, Barish Sanctuary

Saturday, March 11

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Samuel Dickerman**, son of Annie
Stein & Jesse Dickerman, and **Olivia Marks**, daughter
of Nataly & Andrew Marks

Shabbat Vayak'heil - P'kudei Friday, March 17

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, March 18

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
Bat Mitzvah of **Isabella Clark**, daughter of Lara &
Perrin Clark

Shabbat Vayirka Friday, March 24

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, March 25

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Max Fishel**, son of Bari & David
Fishel, and **Levi Kasner**, son of Cindy & Lewis Kasner

Shabbat Tzav Friday, March 31

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, April 1

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Mason Lord**, son of Stacy & Jeremy
Lord, and **Ben Stopnicki**, son of Karen & Jack Stopnicki

Shabbat Chol HaMo-eid Pesach Friday, April 7

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, April 8

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel

Shabbat Sh'mini Friday, April 14

6:00 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat, Proler Chapel

Saturday, April 15

10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Proler Chapel
10:30 a.m., Shabbat Morning Service, Barish Sanctuary
B'nei Mitzvah of **Levi Leibman**, son of April & Ben
Leibman, and **Chloe Pinsky**, daughter of Roanna &
Jay Pinsky

FROM RABBI HAYON *continued from page 1*

boxes on which we can rely to increase our sense of safety: the relationships we build with others, the strength and robustness of our faith and spiritual practices, our connection with God and sense of being rooted in the context of the timeless and triumphant Jewish culture. This month in particular, though, as we prepare to celebrate Purim, I want to focus on the potential of one specific Jewish value that is vitally important to the strengthening of our sense of safety: Jewish joy.

As we all know, Purim tells the story of the ineffectual King Ahasuerus and his wicked advisor Haman. Although the events chronicled in the Book of Esther are celebrated today with costume parties, sweet treats and children's games, the details of the Megillah describe one of the darkest hours of our history, when the Jews of Persia

faced the very real threat of violence and destruction.

Nevertheless, Purim is not commemorated with grief or solemnity; instead, we demonstrate our resilience in the face of fear by acting with defiant, irrepressible joy. This, to me, is one of the most powerfully moving illustrations of what it means to be Jewish: never to ignore the threat of antisemitism and prejudice, but at the same time, to refuse to capitulate to them. We all know the old joke about "they tried to kill us, we won, let's eat" – but that little punchline underscores a deep truth. Jewish joy remains among our greatest resources in facing down our adversaries. Our indomitable capacity for happiness and celebration is one of the superpowers that ensures that our people will endure and thrive.

As we make our way together toward Purim this year, it is my hope that we will preserve our paired commitments to both security and safety. Let us remain empowered by the knowledge that our sacred spaces are protected by skill and expertise, and perhaps even more importantly, let us be continually inspired by the enduring power of the inexhaustible joy of Jewish life.

We are grateful to local clergy who have volunteered to help lead prayer and teaching while Rabbi Silk is on sabbatical. Congregation Emanu El thanks you.



Rabbi Steve Gross

Rabbi Steve Gross is the rabbi at Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism and has served the Houston Jewish Community for over 25 years. Rabbi Gross sees every religious endeavor as an opportunity to promote community and establish an intimate relationship with God. His love of life is inextricably linked to his love of food, and his quest for the perfect croissant is eternal.



Rabbi Neal Katz

Rabbi Neal Katz has served as the rabbi of Congregation Beth El in Tyler, TX since his ordination from HUC-JIR in 2003. In Tyler, he is involved in many non-profit agencies and is currently the chair of The Tyler Loop, an independent, non-profit journalism project. He and his wife Jen have three children (two in college, one in high school).



Rabbi Bob Loewy

Rabbi Bob Loewy began his rabbinic career at Congregation Emanu El in 1977, serving as the last Assistant Rabbi for Rabbi Kahn and first for Rabbi Walter. In 1984 he became Senior Rabbi for Congregation Gates of Prayer in Metairie, LA, where he served until his retirement in 2018. Throughout his career, he has been

a leader in the Central Conference of American Rabbis, where he is currently a member of both the Ethics Committee and the Task Force on Ethics. With one of his four children (Sara Loewy Belin) and one of his four grandchildren now living in Houston, he and his wife Lynn are in the process of relocating permanently back to Houston. He looks forward to again be leading worship for the congregation.



Rabbi Matt Michaels

Rabbi Matt Michaels served as Emanu El's Associate Rabbi for 1988-1999. He has also served congregations in Spring, TX and Knoxville, TN, as well as a trained intentional interim rabbi for congregations in Plano & Beaumont, TX. Moving back to Houston to retire in 2016, Rabbi Michaels spends as much time as possible playing golf.



Rabbi David Segal

Rabbi Segal was born and raised in Houston, TX at Congregation Emanu El. He was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in New York in 2010. From 2010-2017, Segal and his wife, Cantor Rollin Simmons, co-led the Aspen Jewish Congregation

in Colorado. After serving as the founding Texas Lead Organizer for the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Segal started law school at the University of Houston and expects to graduate in 2024.



Rabbi Jonathan Siger

Rabbi Jonathan Siger was born in Boston and raised in New York. He received his master's degree and later his Rabbinical Ordination from the Hebrew Union College in 2002 and is a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, representing the Reform movement. Rabbi Siger is the spiritual leader of Congregation

Jewish Community North, serves as the District 1 Lead Chaplain for the Harris County Sheriff's Office and is involved with many interfaith and intercultural dialogue programs. He and his wife Jennifer Siger have two children.



Rabbi Seth Stander

Rabbi Seth Stander joined the Hope and Healing Center & Institute's Community Bioethics & Aging Center in August 2021. As Inaugural Community Aging Specialist, he connects community members with resources related to caregiving, aging in place, long-term care facility placement, advanced care planning,

and more. Additionally, he facilitates caregiver/grief support for individuals, couples and families. Finally, Rabbi Stander teaches CBAC's "Aging with Grace" series and periodic "Lunch and Learn" sessions. After earning a B.A. (Judaic Studies) from SUNY-Binghamton in 1992, Rabbi Stander attended the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, where he was ordained in 1999. He has served as a congregational rabbi, resident and staff chaplain, and most recently on staff at the Harris County Long-term Care Ombudsman Program, advocating for the rights of facility residents and their loved ones.



Rabbi Annie Villarreal-Belford

Rabbi Annie Villarreal-Belford, a native of El Paso, Texas, received her BA in Creative Writing from the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, her MAHL and rabbinic ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and a PsyD in Pastoral Logotherapy from the Graduate Theological Foundation.

Rabbi Annie was the first female solo rabbi in Houston, serving Temple Sinai from 2009-2022, and currently works as the Editor at CCAR Press. She loves nothing more than spending time with her wife, three amazing children, and three rowdy dogs – especially if they are outdoors and she has a book nearby.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

WEDDINGS

Samantha Krouse & Hank Beasley

BIRTHS

Riley Harper Cruz, daughter of Stacey & Eric Cruz; granddaughter of Lindy & Bobby Levit and Ana & Edwin Cruz

Zachary Nathan Darsky, son of Carrie & Adam Darsky; grandson of Nancy Darsky and Ellen & Stephen Fischbein

Naomi Shai Farahi, daughter of Marni & Ariel Farahi; granddaughter of Niloofar & John Farahi, Sherrie & Saul Tuchman, and Denise Tuchman; great-granddaughter of Rahaleh Farahi and Nuryeh & Parviz Farahmand

Samuel Thomas Goldfarb, son of Megan & Stephen Goldfarb; grandson of Ann & Richard Goldfarb and Cita & Kirk Breitenwischer; great-grandson of Bobby Goldfarb and Jean Breitenwischer

Lila Drew and **Connor James Klupchak**, children of Melissa & Max Klupchak; grandchildren of Joan & Steven Brown, Rick Klupchak, and Amy Berne; great-grandchildren of Harvey Brown and Fanchon Kanter

DEATHS

Beatrice Aron, mother of Susan Greene and Joan & Stuart Greene; grandmother of Hilary Greene, Heather & Stephen Greene, Elissa & Mitch Harris, and Andrea & Aaron Kahle; great-grandmother of Ethan, Laurel, Lucy, Madeleine, Nathan, Noah, Reed, Serena, and Zachary

COMMITTED TO COMMUNICATION *continued from page 1*

leadership team, and also as a repository for relevant messages shared through other channels.

We have also created a new email address which is meant to connect anyone seeking information about the items mentioned above, or related subjects, with the right people quickly and easily. While you're always welcome

Peter Benjamin, husband of Sonia Benjamin; father of Louise & Jean-Michel Malek, Eugene Benjamin, and Lloyd Benjamin; grandfather of Bryan, Gabriel, Ian, Robert, and Saul

Ricky Haikin, husband of Roslyn Haikin; father of Ellyn & Adam Josef and Jennifer & Ron Zach; grandfather of Avery, Harper, Hogan, Hudson, and Ryan

Mindy Kronman, mother of Sarah & Michael Kronman, Bayla & Jeffrey Gross, Rachel Kronman-Gross & Lee Gross, and Samuel Kronman; grandmother of Aaron, Asher, Avi, Azi, Eli, Eta Leah, and Gabriella

Abbie Laufer, sibling-in-law of Carol Laufer & Leo Boucher; wife of Stephen Laufer

Henry Rosenblum, sibling of Marilyn & Al Eisenberg; father of Yvonne & John Cosgrove, Elyse Rosenblum & Matt Pawa, and Katie Sellers & Marc Rosenblum; grandfather of Hazel, Iris, Jake, Phoebe, Phyllis, and Zach

Harvey Stalarow, father of Hilary and Staci Stalarow; sibling of Gloria Stalarow, Debbie & Alan Stalarow, Gail & Norman Stalarow, and Marcus Stalarow

Susan Tolsky, sibling of Noel Foreman

A Notice About Bereavement Communications

Bereavement notices for our temple family are distributed with the permission of the deceased's family, and the timing of these notices is dictated by the family's request. Of course, each family grieves in its own way, and we are grateful for our congregation's patience and understanding with different families' preferences about how their loss is publicized.

to reach out to someone specific from our congregation or schools if you'd like, emailing info@emanuelhouston.org will be the best avenue to make certain your inquiries receive a timely and informed response.

We will continue to seek ways to improve our communications and welcome your feedback as this process continues.

Our clergy want to know . . .

If you or a loved one is sick or hospitalized please let us know.

Contact the synagogue at 713.529.5771, so that our rabbis can reach out and visit and be a source of strength and support.

Visiting the sick and praying for those who are ill are important and meaningful mitzvot.

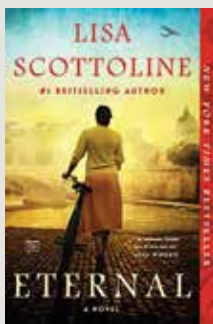
SISTERHOOD NEWS & HAPPENINGS

March – April 2023

BOOK REVIEW (digital)

Eternal by Lisa Scottoline

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 7:00 P.M.



Eternal, by author Lisa Scottoline, is a sweeping and shattering epic of historical fiction fueled by shocking true events and the tale of a love triangle that unfolds in the heart of Rome in the creeping shadow of fascism. It is also a tale of loyalty and loss, family and food, love and war – all set in one of the world's most beautiful cities at its darkest time.

This book review, led by Dr. Ed Septimus, will be held online via Zoom and the information to access will be emailed ahead of time to those who register.

Register online by visiting our web calendar at

emanuelhouston.org or contact the Sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org.

Mah Jongg 2023-2024 – Let's Play!



Afternoon Mah Jongg Tuesday, March 7, 1:00 p.m.

Play mah jongg with Sisterhood and let the winds blow your way! Bring your cards and friends. Refreshments will be provided.

Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

Evening Mah Jongg Tuesday, March 21, 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy a mah jongg evening with Sisterhood. A light dinner for \$7 will be served. **Registration is a must!** Please register online or by contacting the Sisterhood office at sishood@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 233.

SAVE THE DATE! Jeans & Jewels: A Celebration of Being Together Thursday, March 16 Patron Reception: 6:00 p.m. | Event: 6:30 p.m.

Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood is thrilled to announce that we will be back live at our annual 2023 Donor event, Jeans & Jewels: a celebration of being together. Please join us for dinner and entertainment featuring The David Caceres Orchestra. The event will be held at Congregation Emanu El.



In addition to helping support Sisterhood, a portion of the proceeds from Jeans & Jewels will be donated to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Education Fund. The Rodeo Education Fund has presented more than 20,000 scholarships benefiting the youth of Texas since 1957. An additional donation will be made to the Rodeo's Hospitals Art Contests, which offers children who are confined to hospitals an opportunity to express themselves through art.

Let's celebrate being together and enjoy a wonderful night featuring a delicious dinner and great entertainment while supporting Congregation Emanu El Sisterhood and important causes in the community.

RSVP by visiting us online at emanuelhouston.org/jeansandjewels2023 or contact the sisterhood office at 713.529.5771, ext. 233 or sishood@emanuelhouston.org.



PURIM 2023
Sunday, March 5
Spiel 10:00 a.m., Carnival 11:00 a.m.

We are excited for a fabulous day of Purim celebration, and we can't wait to share it with you. You can find all the information and features for this year's bash, including the spiel and carnival, by visiting our Purim hub online at emanuelhouston.org/purim2023.

The entertainment will begin with our Purim spiel in the Barish Sanctuary. If you are unable to attend in person, please find us on our streaming video page at emanuelhouston.org/watch (select Barish Sanctuary) or



on social media at our Facebook and YouTube pages. The theme for this year's spiel is *Mamma Mia Megillah*, and you won't want to miss what we've got in store!

Following the spiel, the fun will continue at our Purim carnival, sponsored by the Helfman Religious School Committee. From games to inflatables, hamantaschen to arts & crafts, and costumes to confetti eggs, there will be something for everyone. Want to volunteer during the carnival? Registration is available at our website, and we would love your help.

PLEASE NOTE: All vehicles entering the campus will be checked for a CEE sticker or Becker carpool tag. If you are inviting a non-member guest, please use the "guest names" field on the ticket pre-sale form to add them to our list of authorized people.

The day's festivities are generously underwritten by the Susman Fund for Family Programming, the Rabbi Roy & Linda Walter Enrichment Fund, the Julia Kaplan Religious School Enrichment Fund, and the Michael Spolane Education Fund.

Taste of Talmud
Thursday, March 9 (note new date), 12:30 p.m.

Do you want all the benefits of a book discussion group without the need to commit to extensive reading ahead of time? Do you want to connect with both your Judaism and a fun group of people?



Congregation Emanu El
SCHMOOZE & SCHMEAR

Join us on the first Saturday of each month for an engaging and spiritual prayer service at 10:30 a.m., then stay after the service for a nosh.



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If your answer to any of these questions is yes, then join us for *A Taste of Talmud*, our monthly study of rabbinic texts, led by Director of Congregational Learning Stefani Carlson. No experience or Hebrew knowledge required: all texts are provided in translation. We are currently meeting on Zoom – all are welcome. We would love to have you add your voice to our virtual *beit midrash* (house of study)!

The Zoom information for the event can be found online. For more information, contact Stefani Carlson at stefanic@emanuelhouston.org or 713.529.5771, ext. 251.

Heritage Shabbat

Friday, March 10, 6:00 p.m.



Join us for Heritage Shabbat featuring Cantor Simmons, Emanu El's professional octet and our organist, Ann Frohbieter. We will share the treasured music of our heritage with classical settings that convey the majestic tranquility and joy of Shabbat.

The Classics Visit Japanese Gardens

Sunday, March 12, 3:00 p.m.

Hermann Park (6000 Fannin St.)



Welcome in Spring and See the Cherry Blossoms in Bloom

Join the Classics, Emanu El's social group for members in their 50s and 60s, for a visit to the Japanese Gardens in Hermann Park. The cherry blossoms are projected to be in full bloom over the weekend of **March 10 – 12**.

We will meet at the entrance to the Japanese Gardens at 3:00 p.m. After a leisurely stroll through the Gardens, we will stop at to AKA Sushi House (2390 West Alabama St.) to sample some authentic Japanese food. The restaurant has a Sunday "Happy Hour."

Admission to the Japanese Gardens is free. We will order individually at the restaurant with separate checks. Please RSVP on our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org by Tuesday, March 7, so that we may advise the restaurant of our seating requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact us at emanuelclassics@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you.

Becker Garden Celebration

Sunday, March 26, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Come enjoy this family event in celebration of Bear's Garden at Becker School. Families will come together for planting in the garden and enjoy outdoor spring activities which include a petting zoo! This event will be held at Emanu El and is open to all. RSVP online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.

Community-wide Observance of Yom HaShoah

Sunday, April 16, 3:00 p.m.



Please join us in observance of Yom HaShoah, a day of remembrance for the 6,000,000 Jewish people who lost their lives during the Holocaust. During this annual commemoration, we will mourn the loss of all who perished, honor those who survived and come together as a community to remember and reflect. Coordinated by the Yom HaShoah steering committee and the Holocaust Museum Houston, this year's event will take place at Congregation Emanu El.

This event will be live streamed for those unable to join us in person. A live stream link will be provided closer to the event and in community-wide communications.

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2023

ANNUAL MEETING

ONLINE



Annual Meeting (digital) Sunday, April 23, 4:00 p.m.

Please plan to join your congregational community at the 2023 Annual Meeting. Your participation helps shape Emanu El's future by voting on key items and being a part of the necessary quorum to conduct important synagogue business.

The agenda items include:

- Important updates about the congregation from the President and Senior Rabbi
- Approval of the operating budget for 2023-2024 (summary budget included in congregational mailing to be sent in March)
- Electing officers and trustees (Nominating Committee report and biographies included in the mailing)

Our past few annual meetings saw a significant increase in member participation using a virtual format in comparison to previous in-person annual meetings; therefore, we have chosen to continue the Zoom Webinar format this year to encourage more member participation in our congregational business.

Because this Annual Meeting will be as a Zoom Webinar, all members must register online by visiting emanuelhouston.org or by calling 713.529.5771.

MUSIC AT EMANU EL

— SAVE THE DATE! —

Israel @ 75: Celebrating the Hope in Harmony Yom Ha'atzmaut – Israel's 75th Birthday Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

In celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, join Cantor Simmons and some of the best cantors in the country – Cantor David Berger, Cantor Galit Dadoun-Cohen, and Cantor Leigh Korn – for a journey through the music of Israel.



Cantor Rollin Simmons



Cantor David Berger



Cantor Galit Dadoun-Cohen



Cantor Leigh Korn



ERJCC Film Festival:

TEEN NIGHT! *Repairing the World*

Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.

Evelyn Rubenstein JCC Kaplan Theatre



New promising, entertaining and exceptional award-winning films are featured in this annual festival, which brings Jewish lives and stories to the big screen and shines the spotlight on Jewish and Israeli culture, art and history. This program, presented with Kehillah High, J Teens and BBYO, is exclusively for teens and

their families. Film Director Patrice O'Neill will be in attendance for a post-film Q&A. Register online to enjoy this event.

Evelyn Rubenstein JCC of Houston

Directed by Patrice O'Neill

81 minutes

English

Documentary

SYNOPSIS: Pittsburghers experienced tremendous grief following the 2018 Tree of Life synagogue shooting that took 11 lives in the close-knit Squirrel Hill community. In the three years that followed, they transformed that trauma into a courageous, community-wide, interfaith effort to combat antisemitism, racism, white supremacy, and gun violence. Jewish residents, religious leaders, and city officials discuss their determination to forge a united front to oppose all forms of hate threatening their city.

Undies for Everyone

Saturday, March 25, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

UNDIES FOR EVERYONE

Join Congregation Emanu El members and volunteer at Undies for Everyone! All ages are welcome as long as minors have an adult with them.

All work is done in their warehouse – inside, AC/heat, working at tables and chairs, comfortable environment. Dog-friendly office, anyone with allergies should not attend. Please wear closed toe shoes. Parking and handicap spaces available.

Register online by visiting our web calendar at emanuelhouston.org.



Get Social With Us!

Did you know Congregation Emanu El is on Instagram? In addition to our active Facebook pages, be sure to follow us on Instagram to catch snap shots of happenings around the synagogue. From camel sightings to social action, a thriving youth group to clergy in action and more!

Find us on Instagram at [instagram.com/emanuelhouston](https://www.instagram.com/emanuelhouston) or if you are already a member, find us at @emanuelhouston. And yes, please feel free to “check-in” at Emanu El when you are here for events and happenings!



Congregation Emanu El

EMANU EL IS GLAD YOU ARE HERE! DO YOU...

- like helping others?
- have a talent or skill to share?
- enjoy being part of a vibrant community?
- want to feel more connected as a member?



The newly formed Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group is here to help match YOUR passions and interests with the wide variety of volunteer opportunities at Emanu El.

Volunteer today to help shape the future of our congregation and broader community.

Questions?

Contact Scott Bormaster, *Chair, Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group*

📞 713.725.5212

✉️ sb4runner@aol.com

JOIN NOW!

4 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

1. Visit emanuelhouston.org/getinvolved to submit your info and choice of committees
2. Complete the form below, check the various committees you are interested in and mail to **Congregation Emanu El Attn: Anna Shabtay 1500 Sunset Blvd. Houston, TX 77005**
3. Complete the form below, check the committees you are interested in and place it in the drop box located in the rotunda area of the temple
4. Feel free to reach out to any of our committee members listed on the back of this page with questions



Volunteer Form

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

(over)

Make your mark at Emanu El and GET INVOLVED!



All we need is YOU

Volunteer & Committee Coordination Group

Patricia Baker

✉ patriciabaker83@yahoo.com

☎ 713.522.5241

Larry Barr-Meyer

✉ barrmeyers@yahoo.com

☎ 713.516.5291

Nancy Ehrenkranz

✉ nancy@mkmmomentum.com

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Tammy Mermelstein

✉ tammy.wilsker@gmail.com

☎ 786.271.4346

Carolyn Putterman

✉ carolynputterman@gmail.com

☎ 713.817.2667



Representative List of Committees

- _ Art
- _ Audit
- _ Becker Early Childhood Education
- _ Budget & Finance
- _ Building, Grounds & Security
- _ Cemetery
- _ Emanu El Volunteer Choir
- _ Endowment Board
- _ Fundraising / Advancement
- _ Helfman Religious School
- _ Insurance
- _ Investment
- _ Israel
- _ Legacy Giving
- _ Management & Personnel
- _ Membership
- _ Nominations / Leadership Development
- _ Sacred Belonging
- _ Sisterhood
- _ Social Action
- _ Social Justice
- _ Volunteer & Committee Coordination
- _ Young Professionals
- _ Youth



Helfman Religious School



Our song-leading team leads us in morning t'filah.



Mr. Lex's second grade class discusses a Torah story.



Ms. Josie helps her sixth grade Hebrew class remember vowels.



Our Onward Hebrew team introduces the letter of the week in t'filah.

Congratulations to our Greene Family Camp campership winners! (Not pictured: Owen Blumberg, winner of the Chester Marcus campership, and Maiara Kahn, winner of the Connie Reischer campership).



Deborah Mermelstein and Lindsey Pittsford, winners of the Emanu El Sisterhood camperships, pictured with Carol Sue Zions, Sisterhood President.



Natalie Rubenstein, winner of the Emanu El Religious School Committee campership, pictured with Barry Lichman, RSC president.



Hannah Lurie, winner of the Ricky Schnurr campership, pictured with Stefani Carlson, Director of Congregational Learning.

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Becker School

Becker students got hands-on while celebrating Tu B'shevat! Through books, music, art, gardening, and science students learned about the New Year of the trees.







We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions through February 7, 2023.

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To ensure Emanu El is a welcoming, accessible, and inclusive community

In Honor of

The Emanu El Clergy & Staff

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In Memory of

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To support Helfman Religious School teaching assistants

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To present programs on contemporary moral issues

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To maintain and enhance Emanu El Memorial Park

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Joyce & Laura Daily

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To provide Greene Family Camp scholarships

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Ann Busbee

Henry Rosenblum

Shirley Burkom

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To provide Emanu El's clergy with funds to help individuals in need and to support organizations that benefit the community

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Fixler – Leading HaMotzi at the Women of Influence Luncheon

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Marvin Aronowitz

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Gail & Milton Klein

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The M.N. Davidson
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Ricky Haikin

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FLORENCE & BEN BLUM LEADERSHIP FUND

To send Emanu El leadership to URJ Biennials and underwrite leadership programs and speakers

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Kenneth Goldstein

Harvey Stalarow

Myra Lipper

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To enhance musical programming

In Honor of

Cantor Rollin Simmons

Phyllis Berman

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To provide and enhance congregation programs

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Helen & Harry Reichek

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To provide arts programs for children

In Memory of

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Ashley & Nick Howard
and Ralph Howard

MARIANNE GREENFIELD SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

To provide flowers in our worship spaces

In Honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of Eden Peled

Elizabeth & Matt Krohn

The B'nei Mitzvah of Benjamin Bernstein & Julia Saber

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Families

The B'nei Mitzvah of Max Leiman & Beau Stafford

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Families

The B'nei Mitzvah of Max Madof & Andrew Madof

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Bert Brody

Evelyn Perlmutter

Sylvia & Steven Brody

Joseph Bernstein

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continued next page

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The Houston-Galveston Area Council

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To provide Helfman Religious School scholarships

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PRAYER BOOK FUND

To provide prayer books for worship

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RABBI ROY & LINDA WALTER ENRICHMENT FUND

To support spiritual and cultural enrichment

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Maurice Berkman

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Harvey Stalarow

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To support programs that assist people in the community

In Memory of

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ROBERT I. KAHN SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

To send congregants to the Consultation on Conscience at the Religious Action Center

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Marilynn & Al Eisenberg and Family

SHIRLEY BARISH MEMORIAL ISRAEL EXPERIENCE FUND

To send Helfman Religious School students to Israel

In Honor of

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Marlene Rubin & Ron Kronberg

SISTERHOOD FUND

To provide for the Sisterhood

In Honor of

Shirley Burkom

The Emanu El Sisterhood

SUSMAN FUND FOR FAMILY PROGRAMMING

To support programs for families

In Memory of

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Samuel Weber

Patricia & Mark Rauch

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To support the needs of the temple and to fulfill the mission of Congregation Emanu El

A Donation

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In Appreciation of

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In Honor of

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Gloria & Ben Tobor

Jo Ruth Kaplan

Joy & Joe Kaplan

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Debbie & Marc Shabot

Linda & Michael Shabot

WAYNE FAMILY FUND

To support programs that benefit children attending Helfman Religious School

In Memory of

Lester Slobin

Marsha & Joe Cohen

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are pleased to welcome the newest and returning members to our congregational family from January 12 – February 8. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newcomers as they become a part of our community.

- Claire & Brian Bormaster, children Blake & Jack**
- Deanne & Ian Falik, daughter Leah**
- Allison & Jeffrey Feinstein, children George, Joshua & Julia**
- Kelly & Brian Masel, children Benjy, Eli & Jordan**
- Alana & Adam Putterman, daughter Libby**
- Sarah & Mel Sorkin, daughter Elaine**
- David Tonn**
- Marilyn & Michael Yanowitch**

New members will be shared in the *Bulletin* regularly. Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town or looking to find a way to connect with Emanu El? Contact Anna Shabtay at annas@emanuelhouston.org.



Find Us On YouTube!

Looking for a one-stop shop to catch the latest worship services, musical selections, videos from our schools, and more?

Find us on YouTube by searching "Emanu El Houston Video" and subscribe today!



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- Joshua R.S. Fixler**, Associate Rabbi
- Roy A. Walter**, Rabbi Emeritus
- Rollin Simmons**, Cantor
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2023-2024 Annual Commitment Forms are Coming!

Be on the lookout
in your mailbox.

Prompt return is
greatly appreciated.

Questions?

Contact Anna Shabtay

at annas@emanuelhouston.org or 713.987.3316.



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